Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

In the publications of Mr. Sainthill, the "Quarterly Review," and this paper, there is now before the Academy a complete genealogical and life account of the two Old Countesses of Desmond; and from it a satisfactory conclusion may be arrived at as to whether both, or which of them, appeared at the courts of Queen Elizabeth and King James.

It appears to me that, without a violation of the just application of the laws of evidence, the decision must be against any such visit of the older Countess, who had no apparent necessity for the journeys, and at the first suggested visit was 120, and at the latter 140 years of age; while the other Countess had the inducement of hard necessity, and was then in the vigour of her age, being 30 years old in 1576, and 48 in 1604.

Lord Talbot, on the part of the Earl of Enniskillen, presented some drawings, maps, and photographs of antiquarian remains.

The thanks of the Academy were returned to the donor.

The Academy then adjourned.

STATED MEETING.—MONDAY, MARCH 16, 1864.

The VERY REV. CHARLES GRAVES, D.D., President, in the Chair.

The SECRETARY of the Council read the following—

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

SINCE our last Report was presented to the Academy, the following papers have been printed in the "Transactions:"—

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE.—Mr. Bindon B. Stoney, "On the Relative Deflection of Lattice and Plate Girders."

AND IN ANTIQUITIES.—Mr. W. H. Hardinge, "On MS. Mapped and other Townland Surveys in Ireland of a Public Character, from 1640 to 1688."

The printing of Captain Meadows Taylor's paper, "On the Cromlechs and other Antiquarian Remains in the Dekhan," has been completed, but its issue is retarded by a delay in the execution of the illustrations.

It has recently been decided, on the recommendation of the Committee of Publication, that every paper printed in our "Transactions" shall be made up separately, and issued in that form to members applying for it. This arrangement will greatly diminish the interval which has hitherto usually elapsed between the reading of a communication and the delivery to our Members of the part of the "Transactions" in which it appears. For the future, when a paper is ready for issue, notice will be sent to each Member of the Academy; and after the lapse of twelve months from the date of the notice, the Academy will not consider itself bound to supply copies of the paper.

The preceding regulation has enabled us to prepare for immediate issue several papers which have been long printed, and had remained in

our hands for the purpose of being included along with others in a Part of the usual size.

These are, in the Department of Science:—

1. Mr. F. J. Foot, "On the Distribution of Plants in Burren, County of Clare."

2. Dr. Robert Macdonnell, "On the System of the Lateral Line in Fishes."

And, in Polite Literature:—

Mr. Denis Crofton's "Collation of a MS. of the Bhagavad Gîta."

Many interesting communications have been read before the Academy within the past year. We have had papers on Scientific subjects from Sir W. R. Hamilton, Mr. F. J. Foot, Rev. Professor Haughton, Rev. Professor Jellett, Mr. John Purser, Jun., Mr. Edward Blyth, and Mr. Clibborn. In Polite Literature, from R. R. Madden, M. D.; and from Dr. Carl Lottner, who gave us the substance of some unpublished researches in Celtic philology by the late Professor T. R. Siegfried. In Antiquities, from the Very Rev. the President, Rev. Dr. Reeves, Mr. Samuel Ferguson, Q. C., Sir William R. Wilde, Mr. G. V. Du Noyer, Mr. W. H. Hardinge, Mr. W. Lane Joynt, Mr. D. H. Kelly, Mr. Hodder M. Westropp, Mr. G. H. Kinahan, and Mr. J. Huband Smith.

During the past year a few valuable additions have been made to the library by purchase and donation, and a further portion of the arrears of binding has been executed.

To the Academy's collection of Antiquities there have been added 196 articles, of which 24 were obtained by purchase, 156 by presentation, and 16 under the treasure-trove regulations. Several of the latter are gold articles of great interest and value. A number of copies of the Catalogue of the Museum have been sold within the year. The two first parts have been bound up as Volume I.; and may now be had in this form by application at the Academy's house, or through the publishers. The price has been settled at 14*s.* to the public, and 12*s.* to members. Some additional woodcuts have been executed for the illustrations of the Fourth Part, which will comprise the articles of silver and iron, and also such articles as have been obtained in what are called "finds."

With regard to the finances of the Academy, the Treasurer anticipates that on the 31st of March, after defraying all existing liabilities, a small balance will remain, to be carried over to the credit of next year's account.

It may be worth while to state here that the total number of the Members of the Academy on the 1st of March, 1864, was 358; of whom, 198 were Life, and 160 Annual Members. Of the Life Members, 130 had paid life compositions of £21, amounting in all to £2730; 22 had paid compositions of £15 15*s.*, amounting to £346 10*s.*; 43, compositions of £6 6*s.*, amounting to £270 18*s.*; and 3 had been admitted by vote of the Academy, without payment.

To represent the total amount of these compositions, viz., £3347 8*s.*, the Academy have to their credit in 3 per cent. consols. only £1201 18*s.* 10*d.*, leaving a balance due to the Life Composition Fund of more than £2000.

The Academy has lost by death during the past year two Honorary Members, William Vrolik, and Sir W. E. Parry, and fourteen Ordinary Members, viz.:—

1. Rev. James Kennedy Bailie, D. D.; elected January 26, 1818.
2. Sir Robert Bateson, Bart.; elected April 24, 1809.
3. Beriah Botfield, Esq., F. R. S.; elected April 12, 1841.
4. Rt. Hon. Francis W., Earl of Charlemont; elected December 28th, 1793.
5. Edward J. Cooper, Esq., F. R. S.; elected February 27, 1832.
6. Most Rev. Richard Whately, Lord Archbishop of Dublin; elected January 27, 1834.
7. Daniel Griffin, M. D.; elected January 13, 1851.
8. Rt. Hon. John S. F., Viscount Massareene and Ferrard; elected August 24, 1857.
9. Christopher Moore, Esq.; elected January 14, 1850.
10. Jonathan Osborne, M. D.; elected June 10, 1839.
11. Hon. and Very Rev. Henry Pakenham, Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin; elected April 10, 1843.
12. Major-General J. E. Portlock, F. R. S.; elected May 24, 1830.
13. Robert Reid, M. D.; elected February 24, 1834.
14. George Roe, Esq., D. L.; elected January 12, 1852.

Several of these are distinguished names; five of their number meet us in the records of the scientific, literary, or antiquarian labours of the Academy:—

1. The Rev. James Kennedy Bailie, D. D., was rector of the parish of Ardtrea, to which he was presented in 1830, by Trinity College, having previously been a Junior Fellow of that college. He was distinguished as a Greek scholar, and published two different editions of the Iliad of Homer, one with Latin notes and Excursus in 1821-3; the other with English notes, for school and college use, in 1833. He was also the author of "Lectures on the Philosophy of the Mosaic Record of the Creation," published in 1826; and of "Prelections on the Language and Literature of Ancient Greece," published in 1834. He contributed to the nineteenth and twenty-first volumes of our "Transactions" a "Memoir of Researches amongst the Inscribed Monuments of the Greco-Roman Era, in certain Ancient Sites of Asia Minor;" and to the twenty-second volume, a Memoir on two Medallion Busts preserved in the manuscript room of the library of Trinity College, Dublin.

2. Edward Joshua Cooper, Esq., was well known as an able practical astronomer, and as the proprietor and director of the Markree Observatory. He contributed to our "Proceedings" a considerable number of papers; "On the Zodiacal Light," in vol. iii.; "On Comets," in vols. iii. and v.; "On Observations with his Transit Circle," and "On Leverrier's Planet,"

in Vol. iii.; "On a New Mode of Determining the Longitude," and "On the Discovery of the Planet Metis," in Vol. iv.; "On a Thunder Storm," in Vol. v.; "On Ecliptic Catalogues," in Vol. vi. A Cunningham Medal was awarded to him by this Academy in the year 1856, for his "Catalogue of Ecliptic Stars." An account of his labours in the preparation of this catalogue will be found in Vol. vii. of our "Proceedings," p. 52, in the address delivered by the Rev. J. H. Todd, D. D., on the occasion of the presentation of the medal. Mr. Cooper was M. P. for County of Sligo from 1830 till 1841, and again from 1857 to 1859. He was also a Member of the Royal Society of London.

3. The late eminent Archbishop of Dublin was for many years a member of the Council of this Academy, and was several times nominated as one of its Vice-Presidents. In vol. i. of our "Proceedings" will be found some remarks by His Grace, "On Barometric Prognostication of the Weather;" and in Vol. ii., "Observations on the Leafing of Plants."

4. Dr. Daniel Griffin contributed to the "Proceedings" of the Academy, "A Description of certain Phenomena observed during the Limerick Whirlwind of October 5, 1851."

5. Jonathan Osborne, M. D., was King's Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy, in the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland. He read before the Academy, in 1840, a paper "On Aristotle's History of Animals," an abstract of which will be found in our "Proceedings," vol. i., p. 427. In 1842 he gave an account of a singular case of deprivation of the power of speech, while the intellect remained unimpaired; and in 1850, a letter, "On a New Application of Thermometrical Observations for the Determination of Local Climates in reference to the Health of Invalids."

6. Major General J. E. Portlock, R. E., is best known as the author of a Report on the Geology of the Co. Londonderry, and of parts of Tyrone and Fermanagh (London, 1843). He was for some time a member of the Council of the Academy. Abstracts of two communications made by him to the Academy will be found in Vol. i. of the "Proceedings," "On Anatifa Vitrea" and "On Otis Brachyotos."

The Academy has elected during the year one Honorary Member—
His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.
And fourteen Ordinary Members :—

1. The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Belmore.
2. Christopher N. Bagot, Esq.
3. Rev. Josiah Crampton, M. A.
4. The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Charlemont.
5. The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Donoughmore.
6. Charles H. Foot, Esq.
7. The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Granard.
8. G. Charles Garnett, Esq.
9. Thomas W. Kinahan, Esq.
10. J. J. Digges La Touche, Esq.
11. David R. Pigot, Esq.
12. Major Robert Poore.
13. Edmund Waterton, Esq.
14. Jas. W. Warren, Esq., M.A.

Whereupon it was—

Resolved,—That the Report now read be received and adopted by the Academy.

The ballots for the annual election of President, Council, and Officers, having been scrutinized in the face of the Academy, the President reported that the following gentlemen were duly elected:—

President.—The Very Rev. Charles Graves, D. D.

Council.—Rev. Samuel Haughton, M. D., F. R. S; Rev. J. H. Jellett, M. A.; Robert W. Smith, M. D.; Robert M'Donnell, M. D.; William K. Sullivan, LL. D.; Joseph B. Jukes, F. R. S.; and George B. Stoney, M. A., F. R. S.: on the Committee of Science.

Rev. Joseph Carson, D. D.; John F. Waller, LL. D.; John Kells Ingram, LL. D.; John Anster, LL. D.; R. R. Madden, M. D.; and Denis F. Mac Carthy, Esq.: on the Committee of Polite Literature.

John T. Gilbert, Esq.; Rev. William Reeves, D. D.; George Petrie, LL. D.; W. H. Hardinge, Esq.; Lord Talbot de Malahide; Rev. J. H. Todd, D. D.; and Sir W. R. Wilde: on the Committee of Antiquities.

Treasurer.—Rev. Joseph Carson, D. D.

Secretary of the Academy.—Rev. William Reeves, D. D.

Secretary of the Council.—John Kells Ingram, LL. D.

Secretary of Foreign Correspondence.—Sir W. R. Wilde, M. D.

Librarian.—John T. Gilbert, Esq.

Clerk, Assistant Librarian, and Curator of the Museum.—Edward Clibborn, Esq.

The names of Carl Joseph Hyrtl, of Vienna; F. Le Verrier, of Paris; and Herman Helmholtz, of Heidelberg—specially recommended by the Council as Honorary Members—were read. Whereupon it was

Resolved,—That the ballot be dispensed with; and these gentlemen were declared by the President to be unanimously elected Honorary Members in the department of Science.

Pursuant to the By-laws, chap. ii., sec. 15, Major-General Edward Sabine, as President of the Royal Society of London, was declared an Honorary Member of the Academy.

His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, having been proposed and seconded as a member of the Academy (the preliminary notice being dispensed with on privilege), was declared to be duly elected a Member of the Academy.

Sir W. R. Wilde exhibited and read the following paper on an—

Ancient Wooden Shield found in Ireland.

Sir W. R. Wilde, Vice-President, brought under the notice of the meeting an ancient wooden shield, and said:—During the eighty years and upwards which the Academy has been established, it has done good service to the cause of science, polite literature and antiquities in Ireland, in the original communications which it has published, the library